

Business as usual for protest day says Tibbits

By Robert Klager

Area labor leaders, including those representing both the faculty and support staff unions at Conestoga College, are gearing up for Waterloo Region's day of protest April 19. However, all the publicity and build-up may very well go unnoticed at the college. President John Tibbits is saying, simply, it will be business as usual that day.

In a recent interview, Tibbits said he believes — after John McKenzie's discussions with the unions at the college — neither will have a problem with that.

"The college will be open for business as far as we're concerned," he said.

In an interview March 28, Walter Boettger, president of the faculty union Local 237 at the college, couldn't confirm the teachers' intentions for the day of protest, but said they will be remaining in the classrooms.

"We hope to know within the next week or so exactly what will be happening," said Boettger. "We've known from the start that it is a critical time for students. We have to consider that. We're not protesting students, we're protesting Mike Harris."

Ann Wallace is the president of

Local 238, representing support staff workers at Conestoga, and although the college will remain open April 19, she emphasized the union is promoting that every member of the local make an attempt to participate in the day's events, through requested vacations or leaves of absence without pay.

"Everyone has their own circumstance, but students are still the main focus," said Wallace.

She has been assigned by OPSEU as a delegate representative for the region's protest, and sits on the organizing committee.

Ruth Jensen, chief steward for Local 238, said she believes participation at the protest would be greater if people, including students, were more informed.

Wallace agreed, saying, "There are responsible teenagers that are very concerned; there are committed young people."

"If you're part of the protest, at least you've done something and can say you tried," she said. "Being complacent is certainly unacceptable."

Involvement outside of labor groups April 19, is something Waterloo Regional Labor Council president Bob Cruickshank is counting on.

In a phone interview, he said re-

sponse was growing throughout the community, and was particularly strong at the local universities.

"This is gathering momentum," said Cruickshank. "Teacher federations are standing together, the school boards are closing and we have over 180 groups that plan to participate."

"This is not a labor protest," he said. "It's a community event, driven by the community, to protest the government's actions."

Tibbits agreed that times are tough, but said people have to be realistic about the overspending of previous governments.

"I'm unhappy we had to go through this (cost-cutting) so quickly," said Tibbits. "But I'm happy we haven't had to lay off. I think some people appreciate that."

Tibbits warned about the difficulty in resolving these issues when people are inclined to hide behind slogans.

"I think at times like these, traditionally, there is going to be a lot of rhetoric," he said.

In warning students about specific issues at the college, such as the alternative delivery debate, Tibbits said, "I think students should be very careful when taking sides. I think they should ask a lot of questions and listen very carefully."

Eyes on the road



Beverly Cutone backs her wheelchair around a pylon at the wheelchair obstacle course which took place Wednesday, March 27, in the main cafeteria for Special Needs Awareness Week.
(Photo by Linda Yovanovich)

Higher costs to students Fees added to tuition hike

By Patrick Moore

Conestoga students can expect higher fees come September, says Dawn Mittelholtz, DSA president.

She said the college administration is considering adding several extra fees in addition to the 15 per cent tuition increase already announced.

Mittelholtz was speaking to a Conestoga board of directors meeting, March 26.

"The administration is asking the board of directors to approve a yearly, five-dollar transcript fee," said Mittelholtz. She said the transcript fee would allow students to request unlimited transcripts at no charge. Currently, transcripts are available from the college at seven dollars per copy.

"I'm against this fee," said Ben Noseworthy, member of the board of directors. "Why should I pay to subsidize someone else's copies of their transcript? It is ridiculous."

The board voted 13-5, with one abstention, against implementing the new transcript fee.

Mittelholtz said the college is considering merging several fees,

including athletic fees and the student locker fee, into a new campus fee.

She said currently students can choose to opt out of their locker fee.

"That won't be the case once it becomes part of the campus fee," Mittelholtz said.

April-Dawn Blackwell, DSA vice-president of student affairs, said she felt uncomfortable that students would not be able to opt out of the locker fee.

"I am a little concerned that this is just a cash grab," said Gavin FitzPatrick, DSA entertainment assistant. "Even though there are more students this year, there seem to be a lot more empty lockers. I'm concerned about taking away students' choices in order to get quick cash."

Mittelholtz said there will be a breakdown of the campus fee on the back of each student's fee statement. "The breakdown the administration is providing this year will not be given in subsequent years," said Jack Fletcher, chair of student services.

Noseworthy asked why only full-time students will be charged

for the new campus fee.

"We have a lot of part-time students here," he said. "Why are they not paying?"

Lumping fees together is dangerous, said Noseworthy. "If we allow this to happen, I have a feeling the administration will simply increase this campus fee without any accountability."

Irene da Rosa, DSA director of finance, said the campus fee is a "flow-through" fee, meaning a vote by the board of directors is not required for the college administration to implement the fee.

Mittelholtz said the college is also introducing another flow-through fee, the CanCopy fee. She said the fee is used to pay for licensing copies of books for student and faculty use, among other things.

"The fee will be \$2.50 per year," Mittelholtz said. "But the DSA could subsidize this fee through its own resources for this year."

"That DSA money comes from the students," said Noseworthy. "The only time to fight a fee is before it is implemented," he said. "I have a problem with this, and I don't think the board should be endorsing this."

No evacuation Second bomb scare hits Doon

By Blake Ellis

After thorough consultation with police and fire department representatives, Conestoga College decided not to evacuate Doon campus after a bomb threat was called in early Wednesday, April 3.

Conestoga's communications and public relations official John Sawicki said if the college evacuates every time there is a bomb threat, such an action will not stop anyone from calling in and disrupting the school more frequently.

A call came into the Kitchener fire department at about 8 a.m. from a "calm" male caller. The caller said the bomb was to go off at noon, said Sawicki.

Another call came into the Waterloo Region Police Department and a third call came into the college, said Sawicki.

At that time, representatives from the police and fire departments were called into the col-

lege for consultation.

Emergency response teams were sent throughout the college and made frequent reports back to the physical resources office during the morning.

After much consultation from fire and police officials, the college made the final decision at about 11:05 a.m. not to evacuate.

Sawicki said they didn't think it met the criteria of a high level of danger.

"Any decision has some risk to it, that's why we rely so heavily on thorough consultation," he said.

He added, if a person was to check with hospitals and other institutions, they would find they get many threats and a lot of the time they handle it the same way.

This is Conestoga College's second bomb threat this school year. The first threat in November saw the school evacuated and prompted officials to review emergency procedures.

CAMPUS NEWS

News editor: Robert Klager 748-536

Tibbits criticizes Spoke for 'sloppy reporting'

By Paul Tuns

John Tibbits, Conestoga president, criticized Spoke for failing to get its facts correct in its March 25 editorial.

Speaking to the board of governors meeting on March 25, Tibbits said he considered the editorial in Spoke unfair and untrue.

The editorial, "Student forum needs open question format," had its facts wrong, Tibbits told the board.

He called the opinion piece sloppy reporting and admonished the paper to do better in the future.

He said that despite the editorial's contention to the contrary, he did not receive any questions before the student forum.

"It is very important for Spoke to

get its facts correct," Tibbits said. "I went down to the forum in good faith, to discuss the issues that concern students. It is annoying, it is more than annoying, to have it implied that it was rigged."

Tibbits said the paper should be more diligent in its fact gathering because the student body will believe much of what it reads in Spoke. It is irresponsible for the paper to misinform students.

In an interview after the meeting, Tibbits said he would appreciate a better effort by Spoke to get the facts correct. He said that he would consider communicating with the editor regarding the problems he has with the paper.

Tibbits said although the DSA had invited questions before the forum, there were none submitted. He

said the reason for the request was that the large number of courses, programs, students and concerns are impossible to prepare for.

"I wanted to answer the questions fully," he said. "I wanted to give specifics, not abstract answers."

Tibbits told the board he wasn't pleased with the coverage from the Kitchener-Waterloo Record and singled out reporter Rose Simone. He said she did not understand the context of the cuts and misrepresented many facts regarding the college's down-sizing in a recent story.

He said he approached the editorial staff of the Record and that they were "surprised by some of the facts we presented." He stopped telling the story, because he said, "we are on record."

Keep on trikin'



Brad Sachs (left) and Dean MacDonald, third-year marketing students, cruise the halls on props they used in a March 29 presentation.

(Photo by Jeannette Cantin)

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Mullan urges early cuts to reduce debt sooner

By Paul Tuns

Kevin Mullan, vice-president of finance and administration, told the board of governors at the March 25 meeting it's important to make down-sizing cuts earlier rather than later.

Reporting on Conestoga's financial situation, Mullan said the sooner cuts are made, the sooner the college will be out of debt.

Mullan presented two models to the board, one based on \$3.7 million in down-sizing costs and one based on \$4.7 million. The first model represents the cost of the current buy-out plan. The second would involve an additional \$1 million in cuts.

He said the models assume certain percentage cuts in some programs and that any future cuts will not exceed tuition increases. He said those assumptions are not set in stone but are realistic assumptions

to base the model on now.

By cutting the additional \$1 million now, Mullan said the college will be in debt \$1.6 million in 1996/97 but only \$800,000 in 1997/98. By failing to cut the \$1 million now, the college would be in debt \$1.2 in 1996/97 and \$1.4 million the following year. The greater debt is a result of higher operations cost in the first two years. If the trend in model two was to continue, in a few years Conestoga would be out of debt.

Ted Goddard, faculty representative on the board, asked college president John Tibbits where other cuts could come from because so many academic staff members had taken the early-leave plan.

Tibbits said that he could not make guarantees and that making promises now would not provide for a good working environment.

"There is no useful purpose," he said, "to answering that question

any further, right now."

In an interview afterwards, Mullan said the last \$1 million will be difficult to do. Many of the non-salary cuts have been made already with the recently announced cut-backs and also with cuts in 1992/93. He said there were significant organizational changes then and further cuts would take some time and work.

In other news, Lynda Davenport, chairwoman of the board, said she attended the student forum and said it was good because the college can address those concerns.

She said there was a wide variety of topics discussed, including the sophistication of computer software, access to labs, alternative delivery in the nursing program, day-care subsidies and the Monday graduation.

Tibbits said graduation day was moved from the weekend to Monday because of poor attendance.

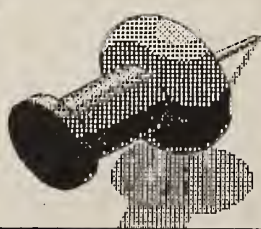
John McKenzie, director of student development and human resources, said there has been a survey of recent post-secondary convocations and there was no decrease in weekday attendance and in some cases an increase.

The board also approved the DSA's request to have students pay mandatory activities fees. Tibbits said the board only approves the right to charge the fee, not the fee itself.

Mullan said the current fee structure was slightly lower than the provincial average according to a survey conducted two years ago.

Also, Winston Wong, chairman of the Financial and Audit Committee, said he expects to table a budget in June. He said the goal of the budget "is to provide a healthy financial situation in the next few years so the ripples of provincial cuts can be cleared up in the next three to five years."

WALK SAFE



DSA Walk Safe Pilot Project Begins March 25th

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Mondays - Thursdays



Walk Safe Headquarters at the SECURITY OFFICE

Volunteer applications accepted on an ongoing basis at the DSA Office

CAMPUS NEWS

Why use an axe?



Bruce Rush demonstrates his kicking power during the 26th annual Chung Oh's Tai Kwan Do tournament held in the Kenneth E. Hunter Recreation Centre March 30. (Photo by Perry Hagerman)

LRC receives funds for new computers

By Jeannette Cantin

The DSA will spend approximately \$9,100 of its reserve fund to supply the Learning Resource Centre with four new computers.

The decision was made March 25, after contemplating the fund's use for nearly a year. "We are thrilled," Linda Krotz, manager of the LRC, said of the decision. "I think this is a great way for the student association to meet a lot of students' needs."

Krotz said the DSA approached Cathy Potvin, senior library technician, at the same time the library was putting together its capital equipment list to submit to Grant McGregor, campus principal. Of top priority was computer work stations, Krotz said.

The LRC had requested five computers. The reserve fund will cover four of them. The rest of the money, about \$1,000, will likely be used as a bursary or to top up the student emergency fund.

Potvin said the computers will be 486 Pentium 75s, with 16 MB RAM. They will be used to update the current work stations. They may also be used to provide service to the EBSCOHost database. The database, which provides access to full-text articles, has been available on a trial basis at the LRC since January.

Potvin said final plans for the

computers, however, will be decided on during the summer. The DSA donation will help the entire college, she said, because the cost will not require capital dollars.

The reserve fund, which has just over \$10,000 available, came into being two years ago, said Irene da Rosa, DSA director of finance. When preparing the 1994-1995 budget, it was discovered that only \$51 of the \$54 collected from students for activity fees was needed. Rather than decrease the fee for one year and then raise it again, the extra money was placed in a fund, da Rosa said. It was decided the fund could be used either for computers or a scholarship — something that every student could access.

DSA executive member Gavin FitzPatrick said the LRC was one of the original locations discussed as a possible place for the funds. The delay in a concrete decision was due to "a lot of little things. We wanted to make sure (the money) was put in the proper place." Uncertainty over cutbacks was also a factor. "We were waiting for other things to settle out," he said.

Finally, it was agreed the LRC would be the best choice because of its shortage of equipment, and the computers will fulfil the DSA mandate of being accessible to all students. "It seemed it would work well for everyone," FitzPatrick said.

Ontario college applications down

Conestoga has no problem filling programs to capacity

By Amanda Weber

"For college choice, Conestoga is down 1.8 per cent," Fred Harris said in an interview on March 26.

Harris, Conestoga College's registrar, said the application system is down in terms of numbers, but he said Conestoga is running ahead of the system.

As of March 23, 1996, compared to the same time last year, college choices are down 5.4 per cent, Harris said.

"The program choice is down 5.3 per cent right now," Harris said. "Conestoga is down .9 per cent."

Harris also said Fanshawe College in London is down 9.4 per cent in college choice and 8.6 per cent in program choice and Mohawk College in Hamilton is down 11.8 per cent in college choice and 13.5 per cent in program choice.

According to some program numbers for this year, compared to the same time last year, the Business course applications to Conestoga are up by approximately seven per cent and the Technology applications are up three per cent.

Harris said that the five- to eight-per cent decrease in student acceptance has not affected any policies because the criteria for acceptance to programs is set before the numbers are known.

"There has only been one change made for September of 1996, and that is that the students are given a 20-point differential," Harris said.

Before this change, it used to only be a 15-point differential that was granted to students coming directly from high school and had taken advanced and/or OAC courses. Points were added to students that had taken advanced courses.

The differential points are given in a system that grants OAC and advanced-level students the opportunity to get higher grades on their college applications. For instance, if a student was to get 55 per cent in advanced math, then in actuality they would receive 75 per cent.

"Applications may be down due to higher tuition fees, a high unemployment rate and the tightness in part-time jobs," Harris said.

Harris said, Waterloo Region's

unemployment rate is low, but not nearly as low as other areas in Ontario and Canada. He also said there is stable employment with the schools and the industries in this area.

Admission decisions will be released on May 15, Harris said. "Right now, we have no problem filling the programs to capacity."

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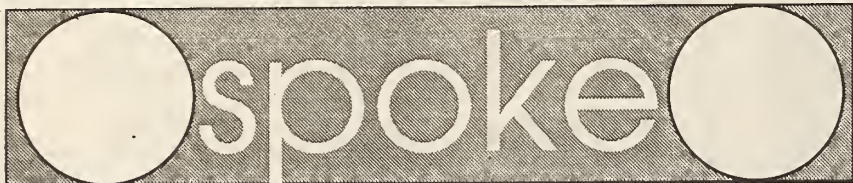
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Correction: The price of tickets for the CBSA awards banquet includes the price of admission and a sit-down meal.

OutSPOKEn Opinions



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Unsolicited submissions must be sent to the editor at the above address by 9:30 a.m. Monday. Submissions are subject to acceptance or rejection and should be clearly written or typed; a WordPerfect 5.0 file would be helpful. Submissions must not contain any libellous statements and may be accompanied by an illustration (such as a photograph).

Finding a job is hard work

The past several years have been discouraging for many job seekers, with unemployment rates stuck in the 10 per cent range throughout our province and most of the country.

However, Conestoga College students have a reason to feel encouraged with the release of the 1994-95 graduate employment report prepared by the college's student employment, co-op education and alumni services department.

The report shows that 90 per cent of graduates found work and 69 per cent found it in areas related to their study program. This is an eight per cent increase in both areas over the previous year.

Considering the cutbacks that have been experienced in just about every walk of life, this increase, especially in the study-related numbers, is a positive sign. Perhaps there really is a light at the end of the tunnel.

Or maybe recent graduates have begun to adapt themselves to the new economy and are becoming more resourceful and flexible when it comes to finding jobs.

A 1994 graduate of Conestoga's journalism program didn't give up after searching unsuccessfully for work for more than a year. He recently paid to have a job-wanted flyer inserted in the daily newspaper being delivered in several of the more affluent areas of Kitchener and Waterloo, hoping to reach potential employers. He received a number of responses to his flyer.

It is this type of ingenuity and drive that will help in a job search. Competition is fierce in the hunt for employment and it pays to keep one step ahead.

Show pride in varsities

If there was a bright spot in this recent winter that didn't want to end, it came from Conestoga's recreation centre.

The Condors hockey team, under coach Tony Martindale, had a disappointing finish in the provincial championships here March 14-15 after finishing in first place in the regular season, but every team comes out flat now and then. It just shouldn't happen when there is so much at stake.

However, we can't fail to recognize that this team is in all likelihood one of the best Conestoga has ever iced. It was a team that was ranked number 1 in Canada for the better part of the season, having lost only one game during the regular season. It was a team that brought pride to Conestoga College.

Not to be overlooked, Conestoga's indoor soccer teams, both coached by Geoff Johnstone, had very successful seasons also. The women's team, after finishing first in their division, brought home the gold medal from the provincial championships. It was their best finish ever.

The men's indoor soccer team, while finishing just out of first in their division, had a good showing at the provincials, finishing the year with a bronze medal.

Congratulations to all participants. You can wave your banners high.

Letter to the editor

In reference to the editorial in Spoke on March 25, I feel it is necessary to respond to some of the comments made about the structure of the forum. The DSA organized the discussion period (the first of its kind between the college and students) with President John Tibbits, and college administration, to provide an opportunity for discussion on issues that are of student concern. Some important issues were raised and we (the DSA and the college) are currently working to address these issues. However, there is some misconception that the student forum was a closed session, structured for pre-submitted questions only. Let's clear up that misconception. There was an ad in Spoke announcing the

Student Forum, the date and intent. There was also an opportunity given to supply questions to the DSA before the event. This avenue was offered to give the students who could not be present the chance to still have their concerns represented at the forum. As well, questions available before the date of the forum — none were — would have been discussed during the president's opening remarks. This is a standard format used for all forums. For an accurate portrayal of the discussion please be advised to read the front page article from last week's Spoke. Communication is the key, let's not bolt the door.
April-Dawn Blackwell
DSA vice-president of student affairs

Just a thought



By Ewa Jankowiak

Contemplating the spirit of wine

When I was about 16, I visited the small wine-growing region of Burgundy in France. Although small, it has been the heart of the wine trade since the 18th century. A number of private vintners have opened their doors to travellers for tours and tasting sessions. Hundreds of barrels and millions of bottles of various wines stored in the old castles' cellars make a lasting impression. It was then that my love of wine was born.

The sensory satisfaction of wine varies with each sip and depends on flavors, fragrances and bouquets. The character of wine is also judged by its appearance, clarity, color, aroma, volatile acidity and sweetness.

The most successful French wines are made from the noble grape of Burgundy, Chablis and Champagne.

No wine in France is entitled to the name Burgundy unless it is made from 100 per cent Pinot Noir, the finest of red-wine grapes, grown in the region.

There are many types of wine: white, red, rose and sparkling. Red wines such as Sauvignon or Merlot, blended with Cabernet in the Medoc and St. Emilion region are my favorites.

French vintners produce brilliantly clear, dry and appetizing wines. Fine Burgundies are still bottled by hand, a method which least disturbs the wine.

The French consume more wine per capita than any other country in the world. The wine is sent off to restaurants, bistros and pubs in barrels and served in carafes to accompany good and

simple food. The most popular wine is Beaujolais, known as the wine of Paris.

There are also two wine regions in Canada: the Niagara region in southern Ontario, and the area of Okanagan Lake in the B.C. interior.

Brights, the biggest vintner, produces over 45 million litres of wine annually. Located in the Niagara, it makes a broad range of table, fortified and sparkling wines.

The most well-respected vintneries in Canada are Reif, Chateau des Charmes and Vineland Estates in Ontario and Claremont or Gray Monk in British Columbia.

Only 10 per cent of Canadians drink wine at least once a week, according to Statistics Canada, compared to 50 per cent of the French including 38 per cent of them who drink wine every day.

A couple of years ago, researchers from the University of Wisconsin confirmed that two glasses of red wine every day could prevent heart attacks. The French, who drink 10 times as much wine as Americans, have a death rate from heart disease of half that of Americans.

Numerous studies have shown that people who drink a glass of red wine every day live longer than people who don't drink at all or who drink heavily.

It is not my aim to prescribe wine as a medicine — millions of people stay healthy without the benefit of wine.

But I agree with a German proverb:

"Who loves not women, wine and song, remains a fool his whole life long."

Conestoga Corner



By Jeannette Cantin

With all due respect Dr. Tibbits ...

There is a sport at Conestoga that has never lacked participants or enthusiastic spectators. One need only walk through the halls on any given Monday to see pockets of even the most apathetic students playing along. I'm referring, of course, to Spoke bashing.

Recently, the sport has been elevated to a new level, thanks to the calibre of its latest players. Conestoga's administrators — president John Tibbits in particular — seem to be sanctioning, if not encouraging, this pastime fervently.

The public forum held March 20 provided Tibbits with an opportunity to speak disparagingly about Spoke. Through subtle intimidation, he tried to erase all bad press with a vague, "some times things come out in Spoke the right way, and some times they don't." His remarks at the March 25 board of governors meeting, and those of fellow administrators, were not so subtle.

Granted, mistakes do occur in Spoke, as they do in any publication, and there have been some whoppers in the past. It is all too easy to forget, however, that Spoke is the result of a mandatory journalism course. The staff at Spoke essentially changes every two months.

As in any course, some students excel, and some, well, flounder. As in any course, some students are more conscientious than others. But that is what a learning tool is for — it's a vehicle in which to learn, and making mistakes is part and parcel of the learning process. Being the president of an educational institution, Tibbits of all people should understand that.

There are few programs that require their students to endure criticism on this scale, because there are few programs requiring such a public display of the learning process. That's OK. Developing a thick skin is as crucial in this field as learning how to conduct an interview. If a factual error is made, a little public humiliation goes a long way towards ensuring a similar mistake doesn't occur again.

In Spoke's defence (and I must confess to a certain degree of partiality) there are times when the class puts out a product that often surpasses that of many community weeklies.

It is disheartening that Tibbits takes every public opportunity to boast about Conestoga's business and technology programs, while he uses the same opportunities to effectively discredit the journalism-print program. Worse, he does it in front of local media sources.

How can we expect potential employers to have faith in our qualifications as Conestoga graduates when our own president publicly casts aspersions on the program?

It is one thing when a factual error gets published — which Spoke will always correct if informed — but let's not confuse bad press with bad journalism.

Sometimes, comments made offhandedly in an interview may seem like the right thing to say at the time, but don't look as good once in print for all to see.

It is not becoming for the president of a community college to attempt to elevate his image by stepping on the backs of students.

TAKING SIDES

How effective will the Walk Safe program be?

Walk Safe a good trip

By Amy Wrobleski



Afraid of the dark? Well, thanks to the DSA's new Walk Safe program, Conestoga students will have little to fear.

Although the program is only being run as a pilot until April 25, the project provides an invaluable service.

Students will be able to have a team of one male and one female escort them to their cars from 7:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday.

There is safety in numbers. Anyone considering attacking a student walking to their car will be deterred by the two escorts.

With violence on the rise, it's time Conestoga adopted a foot patrol system to protect students. There are certainly enough students on campus to warrant a foot patrol.

After all, other colleges and universities have similar programs in place, why not Conestoga?

The DSA has done their homework by studying other systems since last November. They looked at systems used by the University of Waterloo, Fanshaw and Mohawk colleges before instituting the Walk Safe program at Conestoga, so the system is tried and true.

The program is run internally from Conestoga so it will be students who went through an application screening process escorting students.

Students who take advantage of the Walk Safe program are in good hands. The volunteers are trained, provided with a handbook and are required to sign a contract saying they will report anything suspicious to security.

The Walk Safe program is also well organized. Volunteers must report to their co-ordinator at the beginning of their shift and after escorting a student to their vehicle. The co-ordinator will remain at the station in case of emergencies. Walk Safe is easily accessible with little hassle for students. They have only to go to the security office and request an escort.

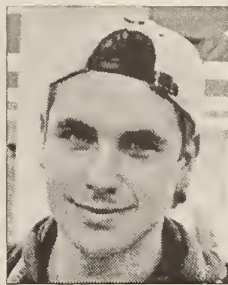
The project is an effective one because it is well supplied. Volunteers are equipped with radios to call security in case of an emergency as well as neon vests with Walk Safe printed on them. The escorts are also provided with a flashlight, rain gear and a log book. That's serious equipment that will help ensure the safety of students.

The \$500 from the grant for campus safety for women will be well spent on the Walk Safe program.

The Walk Safe program is necessary and effective. It will prove to be an invaluable service for students.

Faced with the prospect of walking alone at night to the far side of the parking lot to get home, students will be relieved knowing the Walk Safe program is there.

campus comments

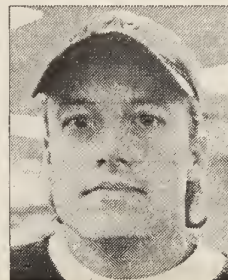


"I'm sure it will be very effective even though Kitchener isn't that dangerous of a city."

Darcy Eickmeier
Second-year accounting

"It will be very helpful. It supports people who need help."

Rob Thibeault
Third-year materials management

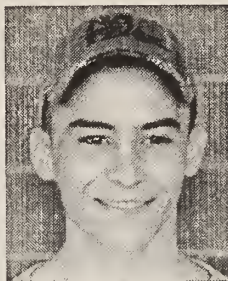


"It's a good idea. It will get a lot of response and be successful."

Marianne Young
First-year early childhood education

"I will not use it because I take the bus, but I'm sure lots of people will take advantage of it."

Darryl Spitzig
First-year electrical engineering



"I think it's a good idea. I have a friend at Rodeway that doesn't like walking home in the dark."

Joan Mackenzie
Second-year nursing

"I think it's a great idea, especially for people taking night classes."

Leslie Murphy
Second-year nursing



How safe is Walk Safe?



By Amanda Weber

The Walk Safe program may seem to some to be a good idea, but students have been safe up to this point, so what is the necessity of it now?

The program, which started March 25, is going to continue until April 25, but what about the safety of the students who are going to school through the summer?

If the Doon Student Association wants this program to work, they should run it through the summer.

Another problem the foot patrol program may face is that it is only in operation from 7:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. There are many students who stay later than 11:30 who would probably appreciate the volunteers of the foot patrol walking them to their vehicle.

The equipment provided to the volunteers, which includes a neon vest with Walk Safe on it, a flashlight, a clipboard for their logbooks, rain gear and radios to call security, was provided to the patrol by a grant from the Ministry of Education and Training.

If this program doesn't make it, where is the equipment going to go?

The organizer of the Walk Safe program, April-Dawn Blackwell, said they are trying to keep a positive attitude for the patrol. That line of thinking is all well and good, but there is a possibility it will not make it and something will have to be done with the equipment.

Blackwell said there is no telephone number as of yet for students to reach the patrol, so students must walk to the station for service, but what if a student does not feel comfortable walking to the station alone?

If the patrol is going to be located outside of the security office, then why doesn't the patrol just use the security phone as their own, until they find they need one for themselves.

To date, there are 13 volunteers to run the program, but Blackwell said they need 20 in order to run the patrol.

Volunteers were selected through an application process. They were put through training, which included reading over Walk Safe manuals and signing a contract.

There were also some reference checks made to establish the qualifications of the individuals, but there were no background checks made.

Most people list only the names of references who are going to say something nice about them, not the names of people that may know the "real" them.

If an individual has a criminal record there is no way to tell unless they come right out and say it or there is a background check done.

For the safety of all intending to use the Walk Safe program, there should be no questions raised about the qualifications of the Walk Safe patrol volunteers.

YES

Do you have any topical questions you want straight-forward answers to?
Send them to the editor or staff in Room 4B15, or call SPOKE at 748-5366.

NO

CONESTOGA LIFE

Lifestyles editor: Tara Brown 748-5366

Activities create awareness at college

Reception honors special needs awards

By Ewa Jankowiak

A reception to honor this year's special needs award nominees and recipients, students, notetakers and test proctors attracted about 80 people.

"I have come to this ceremony for many years, but today's is the most spectacular and largest," said John Tibbits, Conestoga College president, during the event which was held March 28 at the college.

Fifteen people were nominated and received a certificate of appreciation in recognition of their dedication and commitment to the students with special needs.

From those nominations, three people were selected winners: Ross Bryant, a statistics teacher; Patricia Barnhardt, a nursing student and Ruth MacIntyre, a faculty member.

The winners were selected from the candidates from Conestoga's four campuses.

The students who presented the winners thanked them for their concern and sensitivity towards the needs of disabled students.

Those who attended the reception enjoyed refreshments, which included fresh fruits, various cheeses, cookies, cakes and

punch.

The ceremony was the wrap-up event of a Special Needs Awareness Week, held from March 26-28 at the college.

The three-day event, which was designed to increase awareness of the disabilities some students must deal with in the school, was successful and educating, said Marian Mainland, special needs co-ordinator at the college.

The events began with a comedy wrap-up at a nooner on Tuesday, March 26. Gord Paynter, a blind comedian from Brantford, performed his "Leave'em Laffin" show.

His ability to force people to laugh created joy in the audience that gathered in the Sanctuary. Paynter showed that the powerful tool for breaking down social barriers to people with disabilities is humor.

On Wednesday March 27, the special needs department displayed special needs devices, videos, books and other resource materials.

Tuah Peprah, a student at Wilfrid Laurier University, and Carey Ruby, a third-year computer programming analyst student at the college, both blind, presented a computer program

called Jaws, designed to convert text from computers into voice or braille format.

Electronic dictionaries and audio textbooks were among many other products, new technologies and services for people with special needs displayed by local companies and community support agencies for the disabled on March 28.

The companies also displayed pocket-sized, portable and wireless transmitters, scanners, braille playing cards, books, and wheelchairs. They showed that the systems provide access to the spoken world for people who cannot hear, use their voice or handwriting to meet their communication needs and for people who are blind.

Additional events included the Walk-a-Mile Challenge, sponsored by the Doon Student Association, a wheelchair obstacle course, a blind mini-golf challenge, a 50/50 draw for a cherrywood chest and the sale of a cook book prepared by the special needs students and staff.

Each year, one week is set aside for a chance to determine how accessible the community is for disabled persons. Special Needs Awareness Week represents an

Aim and shoot



Carey Ruby, a third-year computer programming student, participates in the blind mini-golf challenge during Special Needs Awareness Week.

(Photo by Ewa Jankowiak)

Students valued by teachers

Materials management students to be presented with Faculty Award

By Tara Brown

Students from all three years of Conestoga's materials management program have been awarded the annual Faculty Award for the 1995/96 school year.

First-year Faculty Award recipient is Lynn McLaughlin. Mark Schnittke took the award for second year and Sheri Frank for third. In order to qualify for the award, students had to demonstrate positive attitudes, effective presentation and communication skills and show efficient time-management capabilities.

Students also needed to show a certain level of academic success and contribute a short written description of their contribution or achievements to the materials management program, including any relevant work experience, professional development or program improvements they may have made.

Materials management program co-ordinator, Paul Knight,

said the Faculty Award attempts to show the students they are valued by their teachers. "We want, as faculty, to give more recognition to those students who are doing really excellent work," he said.

The benefits of the award are two-fold, he said. "It gives more visibility to the program and the companies we work with."

The Faculty Award, sponsored by Karmax, a division of the Magna Corp., the largest auto-parts manufacturers in Canada, is given to full-time students currently in the program and will be presented to the students along with \$100 at the awards banquet for the school of business on April 11.

Lynn McLaughlin, the first-year recipient of the award, said she was shocked when she found out she had won, but plans to make good use of the award when she goes job-hunting.

"More than anything I'm happy that I can put it on a resume. I think it will take me a long way," she said.

McLaughlin said she plans to use the \$100 to enrol in a summer course in managerial accounting. "I have a high standard for myself because I'm a mature student," she said, "I don't have a lot of time to work my way up through a company."

Also to be given out at the business awards banquet will be a plaque and \$100 sponsored by the firm Allen Bradley from Cambridge. Students from all three years will be honored for scholastic achievement, computer skills, work habits and a keen understanding of customer service.

Stephen Brown, the Allen Bradley representative for the award, said the award is a kind of thank you to the program. "Allen Bradley has enjoyed a good working relationship with the program for in excess of 20 years," Brown said. "We saw it as an opportunity to say thanks."

Recipients for the Allen Bradley award are posted on the materials management bulletin board.

College to receive new vending machines, change dispenser fixed

By Johanna Neufeld

New vending machines are planned for the Sanctuary, says Gavin FitzPatrick, Doon Student Association (DSA) entertainment assistant.

If not in place within the next couple of weeks, FitzPatrick said in an interview, they will probably be there for the fall.

The DSA received several verbal and written requests from students and put a proposal through Physical Services. The college has an agreement with Red Carpet Food Services regarding vending machines on campus.

An assortment of chips, pop and chocolate bars will be offered, but no cookies, he said.

A location for the machines has yet to be decided. With the Sanctuary closing at 5 p.m. during the week, the hallway towards the washrooms would be the best choice, he said. It's also handy for people taking night courses.

In other news, the DSA has re-

quested a new microwave for the cafeteria.

A proposal has been put through Physical Services, said FitzPatrick, and the unit should be available by this fall.

Funds for the project will come from the capital development fund, which has allotted approximately \$300 for the purchase.

When asked why the DSA asked for a new unit, FitzPatrick said the lineup for the existing one was getting too long.

FitzPatrick also said, the change machine should return in about one to two weeks. Chonar Incorporated, which owns the machine, moved it to Montreal for repairs after it was damaged by thieves, March 8. The company ordered a part from the United States which has yet to arrive.

In the meantime, the machine will be re-configured for the new \$2 coin. The DSA had planned to have the feature added this summer, said FitzPatrick, but decided to have it done now.

CONESTOGA LIFE

Innovative car design progressing well

DSA gives boost to Conestoga's solar car fund-raising campaign, future looks bright

By Perry Hagerman

The team building Conestoga's solar car received another boost in its fund-raising efforts when the DSA voted on March 26 to contribute \$1,750 to the project.

Added to an original pledge of \$250, the total grant will put the DSA into the "silver" level of sponsors.

With this contribution, the DSA will be advertised on the solar car, the team uniforms, the chase vehicle and the car trailer. The team has now raised \$5,000 of its targeted \$93,000.

Although the budget for Conestoga's entry, called Spectre, is a fraction of what major universities in the U.S. will spend on their entries, the design will incorporate innovative features such as computerized information and telemetry monitoring, said Kevin Tessner, a third-year electronic engineering technology student and one of the leaders of the entry.

"A big key with our team is the amount of computer control we have," said Tessner. "It is something that no other team has ever done before."

While most teams focus on the

mechanical aspect of the design, less attention is paid to the electrical part of the design, he said. Most of the entries rely on off-the-shelf parts.

"We have the skills here at the college to create our own components that are specific to the application," Tessner said. "It is a bit of a gamble. No one has ever tried it before."

Tessner built the main on-board computer. It is the size of a small text book and will be the central area for gathering the information on the performance of all aspects of the car.

The information is not only displayed to the driver, but can be relayed to the team's chase car via radio.

"We can monitor as many things as we want," said Tessner. "We will know how the car is running at all times."

Although breakdowns are to be avoided, they are a fact of racing and the computerized telemetry, monitoring the information from a distance, should minimize repair time during the race.

"With this computer system, we will know what the problem is right away," Tessner said. "Even before

the car is stopped."

The other advantage of the computer is it can monitor as many sites as needed.

The solar car will have over 1,600 solar cells divided into groups of 12.

Each of the groups will be individually monitored, said Tessner. "We'll know what our best batteries or solar cells are," he said. If necessary, faulty or under-performing parts can be identified and replaced as needed.

"It is not a big gain but it is something, and it's something that other teams won't have," Tessner said.

Program gives newcomers a helping hand

YMCA program helps immigrants and refugees make a smooth integration into Canadian society

By Linda Yovanovich

Imagine being forced to flee from your homeland because of the terrors of war or social injustice. Then imagine coming to a country where you do not speak the language and know little about the culture. This is the reality of many newcomers to Canada.

The cross-cultural services of the YMCA of Kitchener-Waterloo sponsors a program called Host, which matches immigrant families and individuals with Ca-

nadian families and individuals to help newcomers integrate into Canadian society.

Margie Lambert-Sen, volunteer co-ordinator at the YMCA, said in an interview the program has existed throughout Canada through different agencies and has been in the Kitchener-Waterloo area for 10 years.

Lambert-Sen, who is in charge of the recruitment and orientation of volunteers, said 90 per cent of immigrants to the Kitchener-Waterloo area are from the former

Yugoslavia. She said other newcomers are from Egypt, Romania and Iran.

"Generally, the Host program matches newcomer families with local families, women with women and men with men," she said.

The program currently has many newcomer families and is in need of more host families. "There is always a need for volunteers. There is a special need for family and couple matches." Sometimes, if needed, local individuals

are matched with a newcomer family, she said.

"There is a steady, but small flow of volunteers in the program." However, she said, the program is always looking for more volunteers.

Currently, in the Host program, there are 35 matches and several volunteers waiting to be matched with newcomers.

Lambert-Sen said matches usually last six months to one year, although the program will make exceptions for student volunteers

who may not have the opportunity to spend more than four months at a time with a match.

Some volunteers, she said, may participate in more than one match per year depending on the needs of the newcomer.

According to a press release from the cross-cultural services at the YMCA, volunteers of the Host program may help newcomers by practising English with them, providing orientation to the area, assisting with job searches and teaching about Canadian customs.

College Days fun reminder of school ties

By Deborah Everest-Hill

The alumni office wants students and alumni to know there's more to college life than just work, and a Toronto Raptors game versus the New York Knicks is an excellent medium to get that message across, the alumni officer says.

Mary Wright said College Day with the Toronto Raptors on April 6, cost participants \$28.25 and involved alumni from colleges provincially.

"With the Raptors being new to Toronto we decided to make it our first venture co-operatively," Wright said. The alumni services staff from various colleges across Ontario participate in a provincial network group, she said, and this group meets a few times a year to discuss possible events.

Wright said the individual colleges plan their own events but a collective effort gives the group more bargaining power. "This allows our members to take advantage of a cheaper price."

For example, she said, the College Day at Canada's Wonderland, scheduled for Aug. 26, will cost participants \$16 instead of the regular \$35 admission fee.

About 200 people will attend the Raptors trip. A Blue Jays College Day is also planned for this fall.

Wright said the events allow alumni to maintain their school ties and experience a sort of kinship with other Ontario colleges. At a past Blue Jays game, Wright said, the college mascots were invited on to the field and a college graduate threw the first pitch of the game.

At the 25th anniversary celebration of the college system, 23 colleges, 5,000 people, participated in College Day with the Blue Jays and a reception took place on the field after the game.

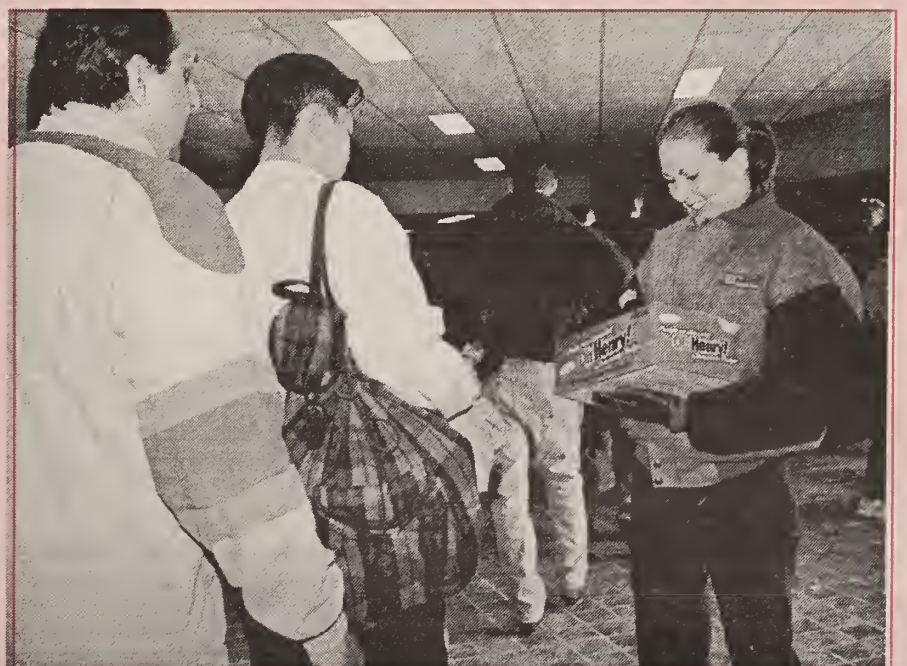
Wright said these events are important to the college because they give it immediate recognition. College Day events provide public-relations exposure while promoting a relationship between alumni and the college, she said. The alumni office has been participating in events like these for about four years, Wright said.

They are usually organized by one person who acts as a liaison between the different colleges.

Most of the participants are alumni, she said, but friends, students and faculty members are also welcome to come out for the fun.

Anyone interested in attending the College Day at Canada's Wonderland on Aug. 26, is asked to contact the alumni office.

Big chunk of fudge



A Hershey representative hands out O Henry! Chocolate Fudge chocolate bars to students on their way to class by Door 3 March 26. The promotion team travels to campuses all across southern Ontario.

(Photo by Linda Yovanovich)

READ



spoke

CONESTOGA LIFE

Golden Griddle hosts fund-raiser

Pancake breakfast kicks off 1996 cancer society campaign

By Barbara Walden

The Kitchener-Waterloo unit of the Canadian Cancer Society kicked off its 1996 fund-raising campaign with a pancake breakfast at the Golden Griddle Restaurant in Waterloo March 28.

Proceeds from the breakfast will go to Camp Trillium, a residential and day facility offered to children with cancer and their siblings.

About 150 people heard cancer researcher Dr. Francis Sharom of the University of Guelph speak about the advances being made in cancer research.

Sharom's work is funded by the National Cancer Institute of Canada, which is the cancer society's research affiliate.

The Canadian Cancer Society is the nation's largest funder of cancer research. This year more than \$35-million will be awarded to cancer researchers across Canada by the institute.

"Curing cancer is like putting a jig-saw puzzle together, you have to work with one piece at a time," said Sharom, who lost her husband to cancer five years ago. She and her children participate in the Terry Fox Run each year.

Sharom trains young scientists to work with her on research projects and she said she finds it rewarding when, after four years, they can



Brandon Fritz, 4, is the centre of attention during a presentation for the Golden Griddle Wish Foundation's trip to Disney World, by Waterloo franchise owner Vasi Muthiah. Brandon's dad, Gerald Fritz, looks on. (Photo by Barbara Walden)

teach her new things. Sharon currently has two scientists working with her.

Special guest of the day, four-year-old Brandon Fritz, had his wish to go to Walt Disney World fulfilled by the Golden Griddle Children's Charities, a non-profit organization that grants the wishes of severely disabled or terminally ill children.

Golden Griddle has been raising money for the charity for the past three years at all of its restaurants. The restaurant donates the administration costs so that all money received goes directly to the children, said Peter McGough, senior vice-president of the restaurant chain.

McGough and Waterloo franchise owner Vasi Muthiah were on hand to award the trip to Brandon,

who was diagnosed with cancer last December and began treatment January 1, 1996.

Gerald Fritz said his son's latest test results show that Brandon's tumor is shrinking. He said Brandon will continue with chemotherapy until the end of this year. If he is feeling well enough, he will make the trip to Florida when the treatments have been completed.

Brandon's mother, Marina Fritz, and his brother Jordon, 7, also attended the breakfast.

The Kitchener-Waterloo unit of the cancer society has several events planned to help achieve its \$500,000 campaign goal.

Starting April 1, over 2,000 volunteers will be conducting a door-to-door residential canvass.

The society's Great Ride/Walk to Beat Cancer is set for April 28, in Kitchener, Waterloo and Elmira and May 5, in New Hamburg.

The 44th annual Daffodil Tea and Fashion Show will be held April 16, at the Valhalla Inn in Kitchener.

As well, a golf tournament is scheduled for July 11, at the New Dundee Golf and Country Club.

Anyone needing more information can call the Kitchener-Waterloo unit of the Canadian Cancer Society at 886-8888.

Rodeway Suites parties it up

By T.L. Huffman

The common room of Conestoga College's Rodeway Suites was home to an end-of-year bash for its students Thursday, March 28 organized by the residence's student council.

Don Handsler, president of the residence council, said there were no problems and no damage to the building, other than a few broken bottles.

As for parties in the past, students at the year-end bash brought their own beverages. The policy, set up by Rodeway Suites, is that students can bring alcoholic drinks into the common room as long as they are not opened. Students leaving the party are not allowed to take bottles with them unless they have not been opened.

About 60 people attended the party that ran from 9 p.m. until about 1 a.m.

Handsler said attendance was comparable to other parties residence has had this year.

Parties at the beginning of the year had a greater turn out, but Handsler said with the school year ending and exams so close, he didn't expect there to be more than 50 or 60 people.

Spinning the tunes for the evening was Chris Oliver, a student on the first floor of residence.

Reflecting on the year, Handsler said the council put on a lot of events that were successful, but there were a lot of things he had hoped to do that never got done.

"Overall, the events that we did do, we had a lot of fun with," Handsler said.

The bash was residence's last event of the year.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Gord Paynter entertains the masses Comedian 'leaves 'em laffin'

By Jennifer Broomhead

Gord Paynter vowed to "leave 'em laffin'" in the Sanctuary on March 26, and he didn't disappoint.

A stand-up comedian from Brantford, Ont., who lost his eyesight 15 years ago, Paynter's performance was part of the Special Needs Awareness Week festivities.

The Sanctuary was packed for the 40-minute show, and the crowd responded with laughter and conversation to Paynter's upbeat act.

Paynter used the crowd as a springboard, using their comments to take his act in a different direction.

Audience interaction was a challenge in the beginning for Paynter, because he didn't always know where the comments were coming from. "If I'm not looking right at you, just play along, OK?"

Paynter took the majority of his jokes from his own experiences as a blind man. By telling his stories,

he both entertained and helped the audience understand what it's like to be visually impaired.

He talked about his wife, sports and shopping, emphasizing the importance of trust in all of these activities.

When his wife is angry with him, he said, she re-arranges the furniture. If his friends want to play jokes on him, they direct him to the ski jump when they're on the slopes.

"I'm glad you can laugh at it," Paynter said whenever the crowd showed appreciation for his stories.

Paynter talked about his Scottish background for a portion of his act. He informed the audience his mother is Scottish, then launched into a hearty Scottish lilt.

He talked about his visits to Scotland, the comfort of kilts and even revealed the secret of the Loch Ness monster.

An experiment Paynter performed with a member of the audience was a highlight of the act. Paynter claimed that he could tell

volunteers what they looked like just by holding their hand and having a conversation with them.

After much persuasion, Darci McLean, a general business student, agreed to participate.

Paynter asked her simple questions about her life, then told her how he pictured her.

He was wrong when he said she wore contact lenses and had long hair, but only missed her height by an inch. He was correct when he guessed her hair color, age and weight.

In his closing remarks, Paynter encouraged the audience to participate in Special Needs Awareness Week and check out the services the department has to offer.

Marian Mainland, special needs co-ordinator, said Paynter's act took off once he discovered what the students' interests were.

"He's an excellent speaker," she said. "He integrated education about the blind and disabled without offending anybody, which is sometimes hard to do."



Gord Paynter, a blind comic, performed in the Sanctuary March 26 during Special Needs Awareness Week. (Photo by Blake Ellis)

Nathan Lane steals the show in *The Birdcage*

By Allison Dempsey

Although *The Birdcage*, an American remake of the classic French farce *La Cage Aux Folles*, has a slow and sometimes uneven start, it eventually does its predecessor justice.

The Mike Nichols film boasts a stellar cast of seasoned comedians, including Robin Williams (*Mrs. Doubtfire*), Gene Hackman, recent Oscar winner Dianne Wiest and the hilarious Nathan Lane, whose distinctive voice embodied the character of the neurotic meerkat Timon in *The Lion King*. Williams may be the better-known actor, but Lane steals the show.

Williams is a Florida nightclub owner specializing in gaudy drag-queen musical numbers. Lane, his flamboyant lover, thinks of himself as an over-the-hill female impersonator, convinced Williams is cheating on him while he performs onstage nightly as "Starina" at The Birdcage. Enter the "other man," Williams' young son Val who — gasp — has decided to marry . . . a woman.

After Williams and Lane recover from this trauma, Val unloads another. It seems his new father-in-law-to-be is rather right wing.

He is, in fact, a politician and co-founder of a coalition for morality with a fellow senator who has

just been found dead in the company of an underage prostitute. Hackman plays the upright, anal-retentive father who must clear the muck off his family name before election.

His wife, played fairly seriously by Wiest, is convinced a moral, traditional white-wedding between their daughter and her fiancé will fix everything in the eyes of her husband's adversaries.

Of course, their daughter Barbara has failed to fill her parents in on all the details of Val's family situation.

At this point the film finally starts rolling. Val convinces his father to tone down his lifestyle for the visiting in-laws and to pretend he is a

foreign dignitary instead of a homosexual club-owner.

The funniest moments of the film come when Williams attempts to teach Lane more "manly" gestures — the walk, the talk, the handshake all orchestrated to assure Hackman of normality.

The ensuing dinner party of both "families" brings down the theatre as mistaken identities and double entendres abound. Hank Azaria performs a hilarious over-the-top,

homosexual caricature as Williams' "houseboy," who attempts to cook, talk normally and wear shoes for the guests.

If the lewdly flamboyant, homosexual scene makes you uncomfortable, there will be few funny moments in this film.

But the dominant message here is the morality of the two families — tradition aside, which parents are the more accepting, loving and interesting ones?

The 2nd Annual Employee Craft and Hobby Show/Sale
DON'T LEAVE IT TO THE LAST MINUTE!!

Start working on those crafts for the 2nd Annual Employee Craft and Hobby Show/Sale to be held at the end of November 1996.

Vendor applications will be available to present employees, retirees and immediate family members to present employees. Vendor table fee will be \$10 per table with a maximum of two participants per table. Specific dates, times and location will be announced in the fall.

If you have any questions please contact Janet Zilio at extension 399.

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ENTERTAINMENT

In business for fun

By Judith Hemming

Leeroy Roberts and Dave Broughton both had birthdays recently. So how did they celebrate? By organizing a show featuring the Killjoys and four local bands.

Teenagers swarmed to the balloon-decorated Cambridge Steelworkers Hall on Friday, March 29, for Leeroy and Dave's Birthday Bash, another party put on by Loose Screw Productions.

Together, Roberts and Broughton make up LSP. Though they started booking shows a year ago, it is only since 1996 that the two have scheduled a show each month.

Roberts said he and Broughton come up with a different theme for every month. For February, the theme was St. Valentine's Day. For April, it is a beach party.

Roberts said the 400-person crowd on March 29, was probably their best turnout yet. However, the shows aren't always profitable. "At our show in February, we only made six bucks," he said.

Both Roberts and Broughton have full-time jobs and book the shows in their spare time. Roberts said the company is not run for profit, but for fun. "It's more like a hobby."

Roberts also finds time to play bass and sing vocals for the band Dr. Sauce and the Lads, which performed at the Birthday Bash.

LSP's intent, Roberts said, is to attract a crowd with the headline act and give exposure to new, inde-

pendent bands.

The smaller bands usually approach LSP and ask to play, he said. "We're not doing concerts, we're really doing parties. The bands we're looking for are the ones who're going to come out and have a good time."

LSP advertises its upcoming line-ups at shows at the Steelworkers Hall and at music stores. Roberts said that while the 17 to 24 crowd makes up most of their audiences, ages range from 15 to 40.

The Steelworkers Hall is currently the company's only venue, said Roberts, but LSP is looking to book shows in Kitchener and Waterloo in the future.

March's headline act, the Killjoys, will release its second CD, *Gimme Five*, on April 23.

The band plans to tour in Canada with the new material. Shelley Woods, the band's bassist, said the Killjoys would like to get the album released in the States so they can tour there as well.

As well as the Killjoys and Dr. Sauce and the Lads, the March show featured Monsters of Doom, Wendy's New Spine and Acid Tongue.

For April, the LSP Beach Blanket Bash is booked at the Cambridge Steelworkers Hall for Friday, April 19.

That party is to feature the Groove Daddys, with Synaptic Transfer Unit, the Dead Elvises, Glew, and Live Sex Show.

Taking centre stage

All-ages event rocks the Steelworkers Hall

By T.L. Huffman

A plethora of youthful local bands took centre stage Friday March 29, at the Cambridge Steelworkers Hall as openers for the Hamilton band, The Killjoys.

The all-ages licensed event included four local bands as opening acts.

In order of performance they were Acid Tongue, Wendy's New Spine, Monster of Doom and Dr. Sauce and the Lads.

Conestoga College's Jack Moon is the bassist for Acid Tongue, a band that excited the crowd with its heavy sound and enthusiastic stage presence.

The lyrics, although difficult to catch the meaning of, are full of dirty little four letter words, something that seemed to appeal to the teenage crowd.

As part of their 30 minute set, Acid Tongue played all original songs some of which were Peace, Z.O.A.O. and Innerself.

Following Acid Tongue was the one-man band, Wendy's New Spine. Although his songs were obnoxious, Mike Gait deserves a little credit. He loaded his songs on keyboard and drum machines and played guitar, sang and pranced around the stage scantily clad.

His first solo performance was made up of tunes from his original work, such as Stalker, Bleeding Seedling and Very Last Where.

He made comments about his genitalia and bragged about some of his other qualities. Childish, yes, but again, the crowd soaked it up with pleasure.

Monsters of Doom took the stage next with original tunes including Rains of Joe, Modia and Ashley Goes to Canterbury, U.S.A. Unique to the band is the melodic voice of Laura Roberts,



Jack Moons, a first-year electrical engineering student, performs in the band Acid Tongue Friday, March 29, at the Cambridge Steelworkers Hall.

(Photo by Judith Hemming)

the only female to take the stage that evening.

Before the feature performance, Dr. Sauce and the Lads took the stage for about 30 minutes. This band does have some talent.

Trumpet player Steve Tanguay brings to the band an original sound. Backing him up is Steve Parkinson on saxophone and trombone. These two guys have obviously studied music, more so than any other opening performer that took the stage.

As favorites among the crowd, the band also played original music, including their most responsive, New Afro. Headlining band, The Killjoys, played tunes with great energy for about an hour.

The band played a balance of

old and new tunes. The old ones were played without a great deal of alteration and that seemed to appeal to the crowd. Old songs heard by the crowd were Dana, Anyday Now and Today I Hate Everyone. Off their yet to be released album, *Gimme Five*, the Killjoys played Rave and Drool, Sick of You and Like I Care. Old Killjoy fans will like the album that is being released April 23. The sound is much the same as the last.

The bands were well received by the majority of the crowd, although, for those people who are no longer in high school, it was a big waste of \$8. If you are older than 18 and you hear that these bands are playing in the future, save your money.

An oasis of soothing sounds brings spirituality to music

By Linda Yovanovich

In the drought-stricken musical desert, an oasis of soothing sounds has sprung forth from the parched sands.

These tranquilizing tones have been collected for all to enjoy and pour from *Jars of Clay*, the first release from the Nashville-based band of the same name.

Formed in 1993 while its members were away at college in Illinois, Jars of Clay is a relatively young band.

One might expect a certain naivety from such youth. However, with *Jars of Clay* this is not the case. The self-titled first release from Jars of Clay is laced with haunting

harmonies which, combined with the strong and often spiritual lyrics of lead vocalist Dan Haseltine, make the band's freshman endeavor a pleasurable listen.

While the album has some blatantly Christian lyrics, it would be unfair to label Jars of Clay a kind of Christian rock.

Rather, it embodies a sort of spirituality which is evident throughout the release.

The musical style of *Jars of Clay* is very folksy and relies on acoustic guitars and a variety of string instruments to help weave the threads of sound into song.

Complete with Gregorian chanting on the first track, Liquid, Jars of Clay explores the spiritual and

secular with soothing melodies and poetic lyrics.

Flood, the first release from Jars of Clay, and Liquid are both produced by musical heavyweight Adrian Belew, while the rest of the CD is produced by the band, alongside executive producer Robert Beeson. The fruit of their labor is a beautifully crafted 10-track release.

The band's influences include Toad the Wet Sprocket and Sarah McLachlan, whose sounds are obvious throughout the CD.

Although Jars of Clay may not become the next Hootie and the Blowfish, the band can be content with their first release which is a well-crafted piece of lyrical and melodic artwork.



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SPORTS

Cafeteria games

Wheelchair challenge a rolling good time

By Amy Wroblewski

The Wheelchair basketball challenge held in Conestoga's cafeteria on Wednesday, March 27, was a rolling good time.

The event was part of Special Needs Awareness Week held March 25-29.

Contenders from all areas of Conestoga College participated. Teams from the law and security administration, the Conestoga Business Students' Association, the Doon Students Association and other parts of the college competed.

Participants had to complete the obstacle course which consisted of rubber ramps, pylons and tables, then sink a basket.

CRKZ was on location reporting

on the event as contenders fumbled around in the chairs trying to outmanoeuvre their opponent. Competitors continually got their wheels caught on the ramps and basketballs flew as they tried to sink a basket sitting down.

Over 40 people participated in the wheelchair challenge while over 150 people looked on.

Items for the obstacle course were donated by various sources. Jeff Penner, owner of Olympic Wheelchairs, donated the five wheel-



Journalism student Jason Romanko takes a shot for special needs.
(Photo by Barb Walden)

chairs used in the event. Each chair is worth approximately \$10,600.

The free-standing basketball net was donated by Karen Rasmussen-Noll while other sports equipment was donated by the recreation centre.

The school of broadcasting donated the rubber ramps as obstacles for the course. Broadcasting uses the ramps while on location as cable protectors.

Rick Casey, who is in charge of co-ordinating the event, said the

idea grew from a demonstration into an obstacle course through creative thinking.

He said the Kenneth E. Hunter Recreation Centre was considered as a site for the event, but it was already booked and the cafeteria had more student activity.

Casey said the bottom line for the event was awareness.

Disabled people want to be involved socially, not just in sports, he said.

"The support by students, staff and faculty was overwhelming," he said. "It was one of those co-operative efforts."

Although this event took a lot of time and effort, Casey said he hopes they will be able to put on an event like this one every year.

Sports comment

Coaches may be fall guys after teams lose

By Amanda Weber

A coach should be someone who helps the team become the best they can be, but for some reason, it seems to have become the responsibility of the coach to make sure the team wins.

This became apparent when Toronto Maple Leafs coach

Pat Burns was added to the list of coaches who have been fired because their team was not winning.

Burns took the fall for the Leafs after they lost 16 games in a row.

This seems to be the norm in professional hockey, but the question now is, does the same go for college hockey?

At the Ontario championships held at the Kenneth E. Hunter Recreation Centre on March 15 and 16, the number 1 team was the Condors, but they didn't even place in the medal division.

The team's performance should not be an indication that coach Tony Martindale did not do his job. He did everything

he could have done. The only thing left was to lace up his own skates and join the Condors on the ice.

Some people may not agree and argue that the coach should be the driving force behind the team, but the coach cannot do everything for it.

The coach is there to guide the team toward their goal,

which should be victory, but lately it seems that more often than not, the coach has been blamed for the actions of the team.

Martindale has no reason to feel ashamed. He did what he was supposed to do. He could do the same next year and the team could take the gold medal.

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SPORTS

Issues and activities editor: Linda Yovanovich 748-5366

Edmonton team wins big at Conestoga

By Diane Santos

Once again the Ontario hockey championship team failed at scoring high and bringing the Canadian College Athletic Association title home. Not since St. Clair College won in 1976 has the CCAA title belonged to an Ontario team.

Conestoga College hosted the CCAA hockey finals on Thursday, March 28 and Friday, March 29 at the Kenneth E. Hunter Recreation Centre.

In the final ice battle of the season, the Cambrian Golden Shield, who beat out Seneca, Sir Sanford Fleming and Conestoga at the OCAA finals, were pitted against the NAIT (Northern Alberta Institute of Technology) Oaks who won the Alberta College Athletic Conference.

Late in the first period of the first game, Darby Walker, assisted by Keith Randall, from the Oaks,

scored through the five-hole when Cambrian's goalie Chad Ford attempted the splits but was unsuccessful. The puck flew through his outstretched legs slamming into the back of the net.

Trying to strengthen their lead, the Oaks' Jamie Barnes, assisted by Dan Kopec, took a slap shot from the blue line and scored on Ford. The NAIT Oaks went on to win the game 7-5. Game MVP's were Sheldon Weber for the Golden Shield and Barnes for the Oaks.

The warmups for the second game brought a scare to the Oaks when their star goalie Mike Walker was hit in the neck by the puck.

Early in the second game Ford came out of his crease and skated to the middle of the hash marks. The Oaks managed to score when the Golden Shield defencemen were no where to be found and Ford was still standing in the slot.



The NAIT Oaks, from Edmonton, celebrate their CCAA gold-medal win on March 29. The Oaks beat the Cambrian Golden Shield in a two-out-of-three game series.

(Photo by Diane Santos)

The Oaks scored once more in the first period, this time on the power play.

The Golden Shield fought back late in the second period when Bob McAskill, assisted by Mike

Dore and Mike Vial, slammed one past goalie Mitch Walker.

The Oaks won the second game 6-2, giving them the CCAA championship title.

Team captain Stacey Rayan for the Oaks said "It has been a dream season for us."

Coach Don Depoe from the Oaks said the team fought hard and overcame some of the differences because of the amount of aggressiveness and the use of the full mask instead of the half shield which the teams in the ACAC use.

The final all-star team was announced after the game. Tournament MVP went to Barnes. Leading defencemen were Terence Oliver from the Oaks and Mike Vial from the Golden Shield. Leading forwards were Rayan and Don Dunnigan for the Oaks and McAskill for the Golden Shield. The goaltending award went to Ford.

Athletic assistant goes beyond the call of duty

By Janet White

Vicki Kane's contribution to Conestoga athletics may be seen most visibly on the soccer field, as a member of both the indoor and outdoor women's soccer teams; but this involvement is only the tip of the iceberg. Kane's most dedicated work is put in behind the scenes as athletic assistant at the athletics centre.

The 22-year-old Guelph native is in her second year of the recreation leadership program, so a position at the rec centre was the perfect forum in which to implement the facility planning and arena management skills she has chosen to focus on in

the program.

Kane's official title is intramural assistant, but throughout the year her responsibilities have included everything from interviewing and hiring minor officials for various varsity sports, to organizing sponsorship for intramural tournaments.

"I was pretty much thrown into this position," Kane said. "I really had to learn as I went along; and I've learned a lot."

Although Kane has a paid position at the athletic centre, she has made Conestoga athletics a focal point in her life and this includes volunteering her evenings and weekends.

During the Canadian National

Hockey Championships held at the school March 28-31, Kane was one of the students who volunteered to act as host and tour guide to a visiting Alberta hockey team.

This meant taking the team to area tourist spots such as the Hockey Hall of Fame, Maple Leaf Gardens and Wayne Gretzky's sports bar. Kane said she finds the involvement really rewarding, and puts the time in because she genuinely enjoys it.

Unquestionably, sports have played an important role in Kane's life. After almost 10 years as a figure skater, she became interested in soccer in high school. She went on to play for Guelph's rep team and

played for the Guelph Oaks women's soccer team for two years.

Kane's involvement in women's soccer at Conestoga has been as successful as her years playing the game in Guelph.

The women's indoor soccer team came away with the gold at the Ontario College's Athletic Association Championships, and Kane was named tournament all-star.

In the wake of this recent victory, Kane said she hopes the good fortune will be carried into the outdoor soccer season.

"We've been close to getting an outdoor medal . . . we've lost a couple of strong defensive players,



Vicki Kane is the intramural assistant at the rec centre when she isn't playing for the varsity soccer team.

(Photo by Janet White)

so it will be different; but that's all part of becoming a team every year."

Kane said she is in a comfortable spot right now in her life, and feels fortunate to be part of the athletic centre community. "It is such a small, supportive environment . . . everybody is there to help everybody else. I love being there."

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